

# MINUTES

## REGIONAL HAZARD MITIGATION STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

**Tuesday, May 21st, 2013      1:00 PM – 3:00 PM**

**Location:** KCOEM, ECC Breakout Room

**Attendance:** Kimberly Behymer (Kent), Scott Emry (Lake Washington School District), Gail Harris (Shoreline), Jack Henderson (Kirkland), James Kraman (Century Link Field), Janice Rahman (KCOEM), Bob Taylor (Covington Water), Jim Tritten (Valley Medical), Denis Uhler (Overlake Hospital), Rick Wallace (VashonBePrepared), Dominic Marzano (Kent), Marcia Milam (Public), Bev O'Dea (Bridgeview Consulting) Rob Flaner (Tetra Tech)

### Action Items

1. All: Send unburdened hourly rate to Rob
2. All: Review survey for Humboldt County (To be adapted to King County)
3. Sam: Post earthquake scenario catalog on SharePoint for review
4. Bev: Check with BNS and sound transit for landslide data
5. Janice: Will send doodle poll for Jurisdictional workshops

### Key Highlights/Decisions

- Website is live, jurisdictions may link to [www.kingcounty.gov/hazardmitigation](http://www.kingcounty.gov/hazardmitigation) from their own pages and marketing materials
- Approved vision statement
- Approved definition of critical facilities
- Approved goals

## WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

### Meeting opened at 1:00 pm

- Attendance by a member of the public, Marcia Milam
- Dominic Marzano (Kent) attended as alternate for Sarah Miller (Auburn)
- Bev O'Dea has a new email: [bevodea@bridgeviewconsulting.org](mailto:bevodea@bridgeviewconsulting.org)

## RISK ASSESSMENT UPDATE

### Current Work

- Updating the building inventory.
- Acquired a current data set (2013) from the King County Assessor's Office. There will be brand new data for about 1300 parcels in King County.

- FEMA has been doing work in King County with RiskMAP, and Tetra Tech has established data sharing with them.
- Dam failure data sets are moving forward, but we will eventually have to sign a non-disclosure that we will not publish the maps for some of the dams. (This is a condition stipulated by the dam owners/operators in order to release the data.)

### **Committee Guidance**

- Committee has decisions to make regarding earthquake hazards- whole new series of scenario-defined earthquakes available to choose from.
- Will define two probabilistic (1/100 and 1/ 500) events, and 3-4 scenarios-defined events.
- Scenario events are specific hypothetical earthquakes, such as a magnitude 7.2 event with an epicenter 10 miles from downtown Seattle.
- Committee can pick scenarios that are most likely to affect King County.

### **CRITICAL FACILITIES DEFINITION**

- Critical facilities can be defined in the class sense of a specific building, but also conveyances or infrastructures such as bridges or pipelines.
- If the definition is kept broad, it is more versatile for denominating facilities as critical on grant applications.
- We don't need to include every single facility possible- just every facility that is at risk that jurisdictions may want to mitigate.

### **The following amended definition was approved by the committee**

Any facility, whether publicly or privately owned, which includes infrastructure that is vital to the King County planning area's ability to provide essential services and protect life and property. Damage to such infrastructure that may cause a short or long-term loss of a critical facility would likely result in a severe economic, health and welfare, life-sustainment or other catastrophic impact. "Critical Facilities" can be segregated into three categories:

- Facilities that are essential to the ability to respond to, mitigate and recover from the impacts of natural hazards including those potentially used as shelters,
- Facilities that need early warning to enable them to prepare for and respond to the impacts of natural hazards
- Facilities that by the nature of their operations, produce, manufacture or store materials that create an exposure to secondary hazards of concern.

Under the King County Regional hazard mitigation plan definition, critical facilities include but are not limited to the following:

- Police stations, fire stations, city/county government facilities (including those that house critical information technology and communication infrastructure), vehicle and equipment storage facilities, and emergency operations centers needed for disaster response before, during, and after hazard events
- Hospitals, care facilities and housing including those facilities likely to contain occupants who may not be sufficiently mobile to avoid death or injury during a hazard event
  - other healthcare providers such as ambulatory care, free standing surgery centers and urgent care centers that play a role in responding to regional disasters involving casualties
- Public and private utilities and infrastructure vital to maintaining or restoring normal services to areas damaged by hazard events. These facilities include but are not limited to:
  - Public and private water supply infrastructure, water and wastewater treatment facilities and infrastructure, potable water pumping, flow regulation, distribution and storage facilities and infrastructure
  - Public and private power generation (electrical and non-electrical), regulation and distribution facilities and infrastructure
  - Data and server communication facilities
  - Structures that manage or limit the impacts of natural hazards such as regional flood conveyance systems, potable water trunk main interconnect systems and redundant pipes crossing fault lines and reservoirs
  - Transportation systems that convey vital supplies and services to and throughout the community.
- Educational facilities, including K-12, Universities and community college.
- Public gathering places that could be utilized as evacuation centers during large scale disasters.
- Infrastructure designed to help safely convey high-water events from the event source to the perimeter of the planning area.
- Structures or facilities that produce, use, or store highly volatile, flammable, explosive, toxic, and/or water-reactive materials.

## **GUIDING PRINCIPLE/VISSION STATEMENTS**

### **The following amended vision statement was approved by the committee:**

“King County is a region that promotes community resilience by eliminating or reducing risks and adverse impacts from hazards, while encouraging hazard mitigation activities by all sectors: tribal and local governments, private entities, academia, and non-profit organizations.”

## GOAL SETTING EXERCISE

- Having goals is a statutory requirement for mitigation plans
- The 2009 plan goals covered 13 jurisdictions, while goals for 2014 must now cover 59.
- Requirements for our goals are that they consistent with the goals of the Washington State mitigation plan.
- King County must align with the state, though we can streamline goals to combine multiple facets in one (for instance “Protect life AND property”) or add additional goals that are not in the state plan.
- The 2009 goals were an evolution from the goals set in 2004.
- Given two similar mitigation projects, if one is NOT cost effective, it won’t get funded.
- For FEMA, loss of life is not included in calculations for cost effectiveness when approving flood mitigation, but it IS for earthquake projects.
- The requirement for approval of mitigation projects in basic terms is that projects must be: Technically feasible, environmentally sound, and cost-benefit effective. Cost effective means the benefits outweigh the costs.
- Environmental restoration and mitigation can be the same thing. For instance, doubling the area of wetlands will increase the storage and buffer of flood waters.
- Goals should be simple but clear enough so that when the public reads them they understand the scope.
- Promoting a sustainable economy should be included as a goal.

### 2014 Goals

**The following goals were drafted and approved by the steering committee:**

1. Protect life and property
2. Increase public awareness of hazards and mitigation opportunities
3. Protect, restore and enhance environmental quality
4. Leverage partnering opportunities
5. Enhance planning activities
6. Develop and implement cost effective mitigation strategies
7. Promote a sustainable economy

## OUTREACH AND JURISDICTIONAL WORKSHOP EVENTS

### Outreach

- Public outreach events will be scheduled in September, to be paired with National Preparedness Month.
- Dates and locations to be determined.
- 3-4 outreach events will be geographically distributed across the county to achieve higher attendance from residents near to each event.
- For scheduled public outreach events, Tetra Tech can set up a HAZUS station for residents to see their individual risk.

- Could also partner with FEMA or CERT groups and other local organizations to increase outreach.

#### **Jurisdictional Workshops**

- Workshops will be scheduled in November.
- Likely will be two half-day sessions.
- Dates to be determined, RCECC available as a location.
- Doodle poll will be sent out to jurisdictional representatives to determine dates.

**Meeting adjourned at 3:11**